

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

\$25,890.00 IN UNITED STATES
CURRENCY,

Defendant *In Rem*.

Civil No.:

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT
FOR FORFEITURE IN REM**

The United States of America brings this Verified Complaint for Forfeiture *In Rem* under Supplemental Rule G(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, and alleges as follows:

Nature of the Action

1. This is a civil action *in rem* under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6), seeking forfeiture of: (1) any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to any offense constituting “specified unlawful activity” (as defined in section [18 U.S.C. § 1956(c)(7)]), that is, a the felonious manufacture, importation, receiving, concealment, buying, selling, or otherwise dealing in a controlled substance or listed chemical (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act), punishable under any law of the United States, or a conspiracy to commit such offense; and (2) all moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other things of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance or listed chemical in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 801, *et seq.*, all proceeds traceable to such an exchange, and all moneys, negotiable instruments, and securities used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of 21 U.S.C. § 801, *et seq.*

Jurisdiction and Venue

2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over an action commenced by the United States pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1345; over an action for forfeiture pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1355; and over this particular action pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6).

3. Venue is proper in this district and the Court has *in rem* jurisdiction over the defendant currency pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1355(b)(1)(A) and 1395(b) because the acts and omissions giving rise to the forfeiture occurred in this district.

The Defendant In Rem

4. The Defendant *In Rem* is \$25,890.00 in United States Currency seized from Eric J. Brenes-Colon in the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

5. The Defendant *In Rem* is within the possession, custody, or control of the United States.

Facts

6. This Verified Complaint fully incorporates the facts contained in the attached Unsworn Declaration of Special Federal Officer Legna M. Maldonado-Ramos of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Claim for Relief

The United States of America respectfully requests that the Court issue a warrant of arrest for the Defendant *In Rem*; that due notice be given to all parties to appear and show cause why the forfeiture should not be decreed; that the Court enter judgment declaring the Defendant *In Rem* condemned and forfeited to the United States of America for disposition according to law;

and that the Court grant the United States of America such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, December 22, 2020.

W. STEPHEN MULDROW
United States Attorney

s/Daniel J. Olinghouse
Daniel J. Olinghouse
Assistant United States Attorney
USDC-PR No. G03009
Torre Chardon, Suite 1201
350 Carlos Chardon Street
San Juan, PR 00918
(787) 766-5656
Daniel.Olinghouse2@usdoj.gov

VERIFICATION

I, Legna M. Maldonado-Ramos, depose and say that I am a Special Federal Officer with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and as such have responsibility for the within action, that I have read the contents of the foregoing Verified Amended Complaint for Forfeiture *In Rem* and, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Executed in San Juan, Puerto Rico,

this 22 day of December, 2020.



Legna M. Maldonado-Ramos, SFO
Federal Bureau of Investigation

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Daniel J. Olinghouse, AUSA, 350 Carlos Chardon Ave, Suite 1201,
Hato Rey, PR 00918**DEFENDANTS**

\$25,890.00 IN U.S. CURRENCY,

C
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE
LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question
(U.S. Government Not a Party) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity
(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) |

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
(For Diversity Cases Only)

	PTF	DEF	PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 6

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment
<input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane	<input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	<input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust
<input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	PROPERTY RIGHTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking
<input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument	<input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	<input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights	<input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	<input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud	<input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent	<input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending	<input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
<input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)	<input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage	LABOR	<input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit
<input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV
<input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits	<input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 390 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service
<input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 Other Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange
<input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability			<input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)
<input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise			<input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)
	REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence		<input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI
<input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment	Habeas Corpus:	<input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 865 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410
<input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	<input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/ Accommodations	<input type="checkbox"/> 530 General	SOCIAL SECURITY	<input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land	<input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare	<input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)	<input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts
<input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)	<input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act
<input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters
	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> 791 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act
				<input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act
				<input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice
				<input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

V. ORIGIN

- (Place an "X" in One Box Only)
- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 Original Proceeding | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Removed from State Court | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Remanded from Appellate Court | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Reinstated or Reopened | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Transferred from another district (specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Multidistrict Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6) and 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C).

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:
JURY DEMAND: Yes No**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY**

(See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

Daniel J. Olinghouse

December 22, 2020

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE



United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico

CATEGORY SHEET

1. Title of Case (Name of first party on each side only)

US v. \$25,890.00 IN U.S. CURRENCY,

2. Category in which case belongs: (See Local Rules)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ORDINARY CIVIL CASE
<input type="checkbox"/>	SOCIAL SECURITY
<input type="checkbox"/>	BANK CASE
<input type="checkbox"/>	INJUNCTION

3. Title and number, if any, of related cases (See Local Rules)

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4. Has a prior action between the same parties and based on the same claim ever been filed in this Court?

YES NO

5. Is this case required to be heard and determined by a District Court of three judges pursuant to Rule 28 U.S.C. 2284?

YES NO

6. Does this case question the constitutionality of a state statute (FRCP 24)?

YES NO

(Please Print)

USDC ATTORNEY'S ID NO.

G03009

ATTORNEY'S NAME:

Daniel J. Olinghouse

MAILING ADDRESS:

TORRE CHARDON, SUITE 1201, 350 CARLOS CHARDON AVE

TELEPHONE NO.

HATO REY PR

ZIP CODE

787-766-5656